From: Anthony C. Cherby
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 5:46pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Please end the insanity. Settle the Microsoft case. As an IT professional, and a taxpayer, it really aggravates me to think of all the money the Clinton Justice Department wasted. The moral of the story to my way of thinking is this: a world-class corporation would be wiser to locate in some other country.

State attorneys general are attorneys - soak the plaintiff regardless of the facts. Money talks, and makes the district safe for reelection.

Is Microsoft an innocent victim? Of course not. They merely are better at doing the business of America - business.

Save the moral nonsense. Certain governmental civil servants went after Microsoft in order to make the reputations of certain governmental civil servants - themselves - apparatchiks like Joel Klein. People like him are good at using other peoples' money to screw the general public. Add David Boies to the mixture and you have solved the mystery concerning why we have so many lawyer jokes. Of course, other cast members like Janet Reno and Judge Pinhead Jackson make the people at Microsoft look like geniuses and saints.

And then there's Netscape. Tell you what. Sit down at a computer and use both Netscape and Internet Explorer to complete the same tasks on the Internet. Then compare the results in terms of ease of use, speed, accuracy, etc., etc. Conclusion: Netscape is now and forever has been an inferior product. That is not Gates's fault. Yet the US Government took sides with Netscape and other minor players, and swallowed the nonsense that MS in some way harmed them. How about some old fashioned capitalism?

In my opinion, the settlement is unfair to Microsoft. They should merely have been fined heavily. Break them up? Sophomoric nonsense. So, please --- for the sake of all of us who know better ---

Settle now!

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